The campus of Smith College was planned and planted one hundred years ago as a Botanic Garden and Arboretum designed by the landscape architecture firm of Frederick Law Olmsted. Today, the Botanic Garden encompasses a 125 acre college campus densely planted with diverse, mature, and in some cases rare specimens; the Lyman Plant House, with 12,000 square feet under glass; and a variety of specialty gardens.

The Summer Internship program will offer students the opportunity to experience the full range of tasks and skills associated with Botanic Garden Management. Interns will rotate between gardens, working with Smith’s expert staff to build and maintain the outdoor plant collection. Duties will include installation and transplanting, pruning, propagation, weed management, integrated pest management, plant identification, public outreach, and collections management and record keeping. Special projects will allow for independent work in an area of particular interest.

The 12-week internship runs from mid-May to mid-August. A 35-hour work week may include occasional weekend hours. The hourly wage is set by the College annually, approximately $8-9/hour.

Please send resume, unofficial transcript, and a letter of interest to:

Gaby Immerman, Internship Coordinator
Botanic Garden of Smith College
Lyman Plant House
Northampton, MA 01063
413-585-2745 gimmerma@smith.edu

Testimonials from past Summer Interns:

“The diverse collection of plants and trees throughout the gardens, greenhouses and arboretum, and the extremely knowledgeable and supportive staff provided me the opportunity to pursue my individual interests as well as introduced me to perspectives in the field of horticulture that I had little or no knowledge of. The program gave me excellent insight into the running of a public garden, and gave me the opportunity to bring my educational experience to a new level. It was an experience I will not forget and I feel fortunate to have participated.”

“This summer I planted trees, perennials, annuals, shrubs, and even laid sod. I pruned trees and shrubs, collected seeds, staked plants, weeded, watered, edged garden beds, propagated, and more. Smith was an extension of school and a terrific summer job rolled into one. The staff is extraordinarily nice, humorous, and supportive. They made work a pleasure and would do everything possible to encourage my interests.”